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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/248,738	02/10/1999	DAVID A. BEYER	003867.P001	9149
32294	7590	10/14/2005	EXAMINER	
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.			HARPER, KEVIN C	
14TH FLOOR			ART UNIT	
8000 TOWERS CRESCENT			PAPER NUMBER	
TYSONS CORNER, VA 22182			2666	

DATE MAILED: 10/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/248,738

Applicant(s)

BEYER ET AL.

Examiner

Kevin C. Harper

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,6,9-12,16-19,21,23-47,49-52 and 55-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6,11,12,16-19,21,23-47,49-52 and 55-60 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4,9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed August 4, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

1. Applicant argued that Baker does not disclose a node entering synchronization mode and joining a network after receiving a response packet. However, the sync state of Baker is equivalent to applicant's acquisition mode (see Baker, fig. 1, item 102; fig. 2; col. 7, lines 27-30 and 57-58. see specification, page 19, lines 9-10 and 15-20). The idle mode of Baker is equivalent to applicant's synchronization mode as claimed (Baker, fig. 1, item 104; col. 7, lines 44-45 and 57-58. see specification, page 20, lines 12-20). The idle mode of Baker is entered and the network is joined after receiving a response packet (col. 7, lines 41-45 and 57-58; col. 8, lines 66-67).
2. Applicant argued that Baker does not disclose that a node establishes itself as a single node network. However, when a node does not establish communications with other nodes, it remains unattached to a network and becomes a single node network (Baker, fig. 2, step 210 - no and step 218 - no; col. 9, lines 1-5 and 10-13; see specification, page 19, lines 10-12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 4 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Baker et al. (US 6,292,494).

3. Regarding claims 1 and 4, Baker discloses a method comprising activating a node of a computer network (fig. 2, item 200) such that the node first attempts to establish contact with other nodes that may exist within the computer network (col. 7, lines 27-30 and 37-40) by cycling through a set of common wireless channels for communication within the computer network (fig. 2, steps 210 and 218-220). The method comprises the node attempting to establish contact at each channel (fig. 2, steps 216-220) by transmitting a request packet including a code identifying the network (col. 4, lines 50-53 and 60; note: domain ID - col. 3, lines 34-45), listening on the channel for a response packet before proceeding to the next common channel (fig. 2, step 218; col. 7, lines 40-42), where the response packet includes a code identifying the network of the request packet (col. 5, lines 1-3 and 11; note: domain ID), and entering a synchronization mode (col. 7, lines 44-45) and joining the computer network (col. 7, lines 57-58). If unsuccessful in establishing contact with other nodes, the node establishes itself as a single node network (note: the node remains unconnected to a network if it is unsuccessful in establishing contact with other nodes; fig. 2, step 218 - no and step 210 - no).

4. Regarding claim 9, while the node is established as a single node network, the node listens for attempts by further nodes to join a network (fig. 2, 218-no, and item 210).

5. Regarding claim 10, if the node detects attempts to join a network (fig. 2, item 210), the node transmits a response thereto (fig. 2, step 222, step 210-yes and step 212; col. 8, lines 55-60; col. 7, lines 37-39).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 6, 11-12, 16-19, 21, 23-47, 49-52 and 55-60 are allowed.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

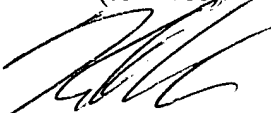
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin Harper whose telephone number is 571-272-3166. The examiner can normally be reached weekdays from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema S. Rao, can be reached at 571-272-3174. The centralized fax number for the Patent Office is 571-273-8300. For non-official communications, the examiner's personal fax number is 571-273-3166 and the examiner's e-mail address is kevin.harper@uspto.gov.

Art Unit: 2666

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications associated with a customer number is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see portal.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kevin C. Harper

October 10, 2005

Seema S. Rao
SEEMA S. RAO 10/11/05
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800